

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF GEORGE GRENDIA

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank George Grenda for his dedication to the 4-H Club community of northern Cook County, IL. George Grenda was born in 1938, raised in Chicago and suburban Cook County and has been employed by Country Co., as an insurance agent, for many years. His current office is in Palatine, IL.

George has participated in 4-H activities for over 20 years in north suburban Cook County. He and his wife Zola first became involved with 4-H when they chaperoned a group of 4-H'ers in an exchange with West Virginia.

Since 1991, George has served on the Chicago-County 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees. In 1994, he was elected to the position of vice president, Financial Development. In that capacity he has regularly encouraged 4-H volunteer trustees to raise money by making calls even if it meant taping the phone to their hand until the job was done. He related that he made himself do just that when starting out as an insurance salesman.

In the late eighties when George was president of the North Cook County 4-H Fair Board, he always auctioned off cakes made by 4-H'ers to raise money at a Knight of Columbus event. Because George would try to raise the amount by bidding on the cakes himself, he always got stuck buying at least one or two of the cakes.

Another one of George's presidential duties during his 6-year tenure, was to provide leadership in running the annual lemonade stand at the 4-H Fair. Needless to say, George was very good at first, carrying water; two squeezing lemons; three mixing lemonade; and four collecting money.

In 1996, George acted as chairman of FORE for 4-H Foundation Golf Tournament to raise money for the 61,000 4-H'ers in Cook County. George was credited with spearheading this successful event which netted over \$5,000 for 4-H youth in Cook County.

For his countless hours committed to youth, their families, and communities, I would like to join all of the many volunteers and 4-H Staff in thanking George for his distinguished service and unmatched effort.

TRIBUTE TO THE STATE OF
ALABAMA

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 1997

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, one of the nation's most well kept secrets is the state of Alabama. Few people know of the wonderful splendors and rich history contained within this

state. Staff writer James T. Yenckel, of the Washington Post, recently tapped into this secret and embarked upon a 700-mile exploration into northeastern Alabama. He wrote about his experiences in a June 15th article entitled "Well, I've Come From Alabama With a Brand New Point of View: The State Has a Lot to Offer." In his article Yenckel recognizes the historical richness of Alabama, as well as glorifies its natural beauty.

The state of Alabama deserves great acclaim for its natural beauty. The state contains about 24 state parks and over 12 major rivers. Northern Alabama also lies on the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. Yenckel discusses his visits to several of these state parks and national monuments. Among those included is Little River Canyon National Preserve, which offers a breathtaking drive along the rock-filled canyon and a view of the waterfall which spills down the cliff side. Guntersville State Park is located in the northeastern corner of the state. Guntersville is a small town surrounded on three sides by the beautiful Lake Guntersville. Here travelers can enjoy swimming, fishing, hiking and golfing amount other things. Other parks, such as Desoto Caverns and the Talledega National Forest offer wonderful natural beauty which can only be properly appreciated up close and personal.

From a historical standpoint, Alabama has done a wonderful job of preserving landmarks and monuments. Throughout Guntersville you may hike along the actual trails that the Cherokee Indians used when the land was theirs. Russell Cave is a giant cave carved into the side of a cliff. Thousands of years ago Indians used this cave to escape from the cold. There are human skeletal remains in this cave which date back more than 6,000 years. Yenckel mentions the visitor's center which displays tooth ornaments, bone needles, shell beads, and bone fishhooks, along with other artifacts. Along the same lines, visitors can encounter Horseshoe Bend National Military Park. This site contains the battlefield on which Andrew Jackson defeated the Creek Nation in 1814, and ensured himself a position as president of the United States.

The most profound historical significance in the state of Alabama lies in the history of the Civil Rights Movement. The state is developing a civil rights trail which would identify key sites and individuals associated with the movement. One of the nation's largest Civil Rights museums is the Civil Rights Institute located in Birmingham, Alabama. In central Alabama, visitors have the opportunity to visit historical Tuskegee Institute. Here, tourists learn of the lives of two men pivotal to African-American history, Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver. Both men devoted a large part of their lives toward the improvement of living and working conditions of rural southerners, especially blacks. The George Washington Carver Museum and the Oak's, the home of Washington when he served as president of Tuskegee, are both historic sites located on the campus of Tuskegee

University. Tours and movies are used to enlighten visitors on the lives and works of these two great men.

As Yenckel discovered, it does not take long for Alabama to win the hearts of those who enter her borders. The people of Alabama are friendly and courteous. Tourists can enjoy fresh seafood from the Gulf of Mexico. The state offers a quiet alternative to your usual vacation spot. Fish on the banks of one of the many rivers and lakes in Alabama, or hike through the numerous forests enjoying the natural splendor, or party in the downtown area of the Magic City. Alabama has a little something for everyone!

I am including the Washington Post article for your reading pleasure.

[From the Washington Post, June 5, 1997]

WELL, I'VE COME FROM ALABAMA—WITH A BRAND NEW POINT OF VIEW: THE STATE HAS A LOT TO OFFER

(By James T. Yenckel)

I was lost, plain and simple. Somewhere on the empty, scenic back roads of northeastern Alabama, I'd made a wrong turn. My map yielded no help, and I'd even lost my sense of direction. Then I spotted a delivery truck headed toward me, and I decided to flag the driver down to ask for directions. But he was slowing anyway, and as he pulled to a stop he asked, "Where am I?" I laughed and admitted I wanted to know the same myself. We joked briefly about our predicament, and then drove off in opposite directions.

Getting lost can be annoying and even frightening, but it's also comforting to find that America still offers odd nooks where getting lost remains possible. And Alabama definitely is one of them, as I discovered on a five-day driving trip last month through lovely lake and mountain country, stopping at several fascinating national historical sites.

Why Alabama? I doubt it has ever ranked high on many vacation lists—mine included, in part because of lingering memories of the angry clashes that marked the civil rights movement within the state. But I really wanted to put this past in the past and learn what the Alabama of today offers visitors. I often find that offbeat pocket of America—their local lore and geography—offer many more rewards than disappointments. Northeastern Alabama proved no exception.

Much of the landscape here is surprisingly mountainous—dotted with plentiful lakes that obviously attract a lot of fisherman. I saw them everywhere, casting from shore or putt-putting about in their small motorboats. One afternoon, I drove on the rim of the 35-mile-long Little River Canyon, a near-wilderness where waterfalls cascade down the cliffside into the splashing Little River. At one point, I watched a group of kayakers preparing to launch into the rapids. Recently made a national parkland, the canyon is one of the deepest east of the Mississippi.

My 700-mile itinerary took me to Russell Cave National Monument, where a short hike leads to two large limestone caverns in which archaeological digs have revealed human habitation dating back more than 8,000 years; to Horseshoe Bend National Military Park, the battlefield on which Andrew Jackson defeated the Creek Nation in 1814 and put himself on the road to the presidency; and to Tuskegee Institute National

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Historic Site, which honors Booker T. Washington, the predominantly black college's founding president, and George Washington Carver, its famed agricultural scientist.

Tuskegee made the news last month when President Clinton apologized on behalf of the American government for a misguided study there of untreated syphilis in black men that began in 1932 and continued for years. The historic site, however, highlights a more inspirational story out of the institute—one in which Washington and Carver dedicated their lives to improving the living conditions and surroundings of Southern farm and rural people.

The message is compelling, and I lingered on the campus for hours absorbing as much as I could. Perhaps its upbeat nature accounts for recent visitor statistics that put Tuskegee at the top of Alabama's list of most popular attractions, beating out even the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville. Regardless of the history, the campus is a pretty place of stately red-brick buildings and rolling, tree-shaded hills. Washington's imposing home, built by the institute's students and faculty, is open to tours.

From the outset, I found the quiet lake views and winding, wooded roads along my route appealing, and I quickly rearranged my plans to skirt Alabama's biggest cities and stick to the countryside. I spent three of my four nights on the road in two state park lodges, where my rooms—both quite reasonably priced at less than \$65—provided pleasant lakeside panoramas. At sunset one evening, two geese waddled past my patio, trailing a string of goslings.

I tend to favor trendy restaurants with innovative menus, but in rural Alabama, I was out of luck. Nonetheless, I dined nicely on simple, old-fashioned Southern cooking—much of it fried: fried pork chops, fried shrimp and fried catfish, to be exact. I did opt for wine over the South's inevitable iced tea, however, which boosted the price of each dinner to about \$20, including tax and tip. This trip was definitely easy on the budget.

Eager as I was to visit a part of the country unknown to me, I still felt a certain trepidation. Alabama's sometimes brutal resistance to integration during the civil rights battles remains a vivid picture in my mind. Would I, a Northerner from the nation's capital, be unwelcome? One value of travel is that it exposes the foolishness of such fears. Everyone I met—without exception—proved friendly and helpful.

In the little lakeside town of Guntersville, I stood in line at the checkout counter at the local Foodland discussing spring allergies—a problem the woman in line in front of me, the sweet little gray-haired clerk and I discovered we shared. This has been a particularly bad spring, we agreed. And then, as the clerk handed me my sinus medication, she reached over the counter and patted the back of my hand in a most grandmotherly fashion. That spontaneous, sympathetic gesture instantly won my heart. I like the Alabamians I met.

Guntersville, a quiet little town wrapped on three sides by Lake Guntersville, was my first stop. About an hour's drive south from the Huntsville airport, it nestles in the rolling green foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. I'd booked two nights at the 100-room State Lodge at Lake Guntersville State Park, an appropriately woodsy structure of stone and timber perched on a high, forested bluff overlooking the lake. It made a pleasant spot from which to tour the surrounding countryside. And awaiting my return in the afternoon was a sandy swimming beach and woodland hiking trails that two centuries ago may have guided the Cherokee Indians whose land this once was.

My primary sightseeing goal in this corner of the state was Russell Cave National

Monument, a relaxed two-hour drive north-east along the scenic west bank of Guntersville Lake and the Tennessee River, which feeds it. The monument's historical significance is reason enough to go, but the views are especially agreeable, too. Limestone cliffs, dripping in verdant foliage, soar above a tumbling stream that gushes from an underground spring and then, moments later, disappears into the deep, labyrinthine cavern adjacent to Russell Cave. The setting, at the end of a remote five-mile-long valley called Doran Cove, looks as if it has changed little over the ages.

Russell Cave itself is like a giant arched room, 26 feet high, carved into a cliffside. More than 8,500 years ago, bands of Indians began using the cave as shelter from the winter cold, according to archaeological studies. Human skeletal remains dating back more than 6,000 years have been found buried inside, and the monument's visitor center displays bear tooth ornaments, bone needles, shell beads, a bone fishhook and other artifacts uncovered there. Few sites anywhere in North America offer such a long record of occupancy.

Along with the history lessons, visitors are invited to climb the nature trail over Montague Mountain, which highlights the ecology of a typical Southeastern forest. The climb is steep, and signs warn to beware of rattlesnakes—I stomped noisily several times so as not to surprise any. But in May the wildflowers were in glorious bloom, and I appreciated the little informational signs pointing out beech, hickory, oak and other varieties of trees. The Indians used oak for their fires, the signs explained, and hickory for their spear shafts, because the branches grow straight.

En route back to Guntersville, I crossed the Tennessee River and headed for the Little River Canyon National Preserve, another national parkland located just east of the town of Fort Payne. Purchased by the National Park Service five years ago, the preserve still provides only a minimum of facilities. Nevertheless, the Canyon Rim Drive yields the sort of spectacular, rock-filled canyon vistas more often seen in the West. At several overlooks, soon to be paved, the roar of rushing water echoes from between the canyon walls. A waterfall here and there spills down the cliffside.

The canyon and its tumbling stream attract canoeists, kayakers and rafters, but the park service warns this is territory safely navigated only by the very experienced. Less adventurous visitors can splash in a stream pool at the just rebuilt Canyon Mouth Park, a picnic area at the southern tip of the preserve, where there is a sandy beach. Perhaps because the preserve is so little known yet, I had it almost to myself for the afternoon.

I had hoped to stay at the lodge at DeSoto State Park Resort, just north of the preserve, but a refurbishing project had been temporarily delayed, and the lodge wasn't yet open for the season. Ah well, I was quite content to spend a second night in my room with a view at Lake Guntersville State Park. This evening, I dined nicely on a heaping plate of deep-fried butterfly shrimp from the Gulf of Mexico. And, yes, I could manage a slice of pecan pie, heated and served with a big scoop of vanilla ice cream.

Leaving Guntersville behind the following day, I drove south through Anniston to the Talladega National Forest, which is traced for 23 miles by the officially designated U.S. Forest Service Talladega Scenic Drive. A two-lane highway, it wiggles along the crest of Horseblock Mountain presenting splendid valley panoramas to the left and right, much like Shenandoah National Park's Skyline Drive in Virginia. Atop the ridge, Cheaha

State Park Resort offers more woodsy lodgings with a view.

My particular interest on this leg of my trip, however, was Horseshoe Bend National Military Park, the now quiet, shady site of the bloody 1814 battle in which Andrew Jackson's militia army swept to easy victory over the defending Creek Nation. On this day, the battlefield, located south of the Talladega forest in the midst of rolling farmland, seemed altogether unmilitary. Instead of combatants, I came upon a large flock of wild turkeys.

The visitor center tells the story well. During the War of 1812, the Creek Nation, occupying much of what is now Georgia and Alabama, became divided over whether to fight the encroachment of white settlers or try to coexist with them. In the upheaval, the militant Creeks attacked Fort Mims, just north of Mobile, and killed 250 settlers; in response, Andrew Jackson called out the Tennessee militia. The Creeks gathered on a 100-acre peninsula formed by a horseshoe bend of the Tallapoosa River, fortifying the peninsula's open end with a log barricade.

Their strategy is easily understood and the geography readily viewed. The militants expected the river, encircling them on three sides, to provide protection behind them while they formed a strong defense of the log barricade. Jackson bombarded the barrier, but his quick victory came when his Cherokee allies—along with accommodating Creeks—crossed the Tallapoosa in canoes and attacked from the rear. The militants lost 800 of their force of 1,000; the Creeks were forced to cede 20 million acres of their ancestral lands to the U.S. government (out of which the state of Alabama was created in 1819)—and Jackson took a giant step forward on his road to the presidency.

A short driving tour and a nature trail loop onto the peninsula, passing a line of white stakes that mark the site of the barricade and approaching the river at several points. On the day I was there, the river, from 200 to 600 feet wide, flowed high, fast and muddy. Under similar conditions, I wondered, would Jackson's stealthy canoes have been able to maneuver across so successfully?

Although I had to drive an hour or so out of my way, I had been so pleased with my accommodations at Guntersville State Park that I headed farther to the south for the night to Lakepoint Resort State Park just north of Eufaula, where I enjoyed another room with a fine lake view. After an early dinner of barbecued pork ribs and lemon meringue pie, I strolled along the lakeshore watching a bright orange sunset. Some of the local folks had cast lines into the water. "The crappie have been biting good here," an elderly fisherman informed me.

In today's world of seemingly unrelenting sleaze, I found that my spirit welcomed the noble stories of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver, who dedicated their lives to improving the living and working conditions of rural Southerners—in large part black Southerners. The tales are told with dignity and respect at Tuskegee National Historic Site.

Born a slave, Washington became the founding president of Tuskegee Institute in 1881, literally building it from scratch. Located on the outskirts of the small farm community of Tuskegee, the campus has grown to a major complex occupying more than 5,000 acres and enrolling more than 5,000 students. Carver, also born a slave, was invited by Washington in 1896 to head the school's new agriculture department, bringing fame and honor to Tuskegee with his practical research. He developed countless profitable new uses for local crops, including peanuts.

The national historic site, a part of the campus, maintains the George Washington

Carver Museum, which details the achievements of both men; the Oaks, Washington's home as president, where hourly escorted tours are offered; the graves of Washington and Carver, situated on a shady slope next to the Chapel; and a self-guided walking tour of 27 historic buildings.

In the museum, I was intrigued by the Agriculture School on Wheels, a large brown van that toured the Alabama countryside, bringing knowledge of new agricultural techniques to farmers who could not attend the institute. In the beginning, Carver got about in a horse-drawn carriage. At the Oaks, ranger Christine Biggers, the tour leader, noted that Washington always dined formally—and on campus during his tenure, student meals also were formal occasions. In this way, she said, the institute trained the young people in "manners, social skills and personal hygiene."

The visitor center at the museum presents two movies, one focusing on Washington and the other on Carver, and neither should be missed. Under Washington, as the movies point out, a major objective at Tuskegee was to train students in practical skills they could market in the rural South. As part of their instruction, they helped build the campus, which meant making the red bricks used there. But for a time this goal—and Washington himself—became a target of sharp dissent in the black community because, the critics argued, it (and he) slighted the students' intellectual growth.

As we stood on the porch of the Oaks after the tour, I asked Biggers, who is black, what today's students, a majority of whom are black, now think about Washington and his and Carver's work. She answered without a pause: "They think what he did was great." I couldn't have asked for a more upbeat ending to my Alabama drive.

ALABAMA WAYS & MEANS

GETTING THERE: To explore northeastern Alabama, I flew into Huntsville and out of Montgomery. But to save on the cost of a rental car drop-off charge, you could easily plot a loop drive covering the same territory from either Huntsville, Birmingham or Montgomery—depending on which destination gives you the best air fare.

Huntsville is served from the Washington area by American, Delta, Northwest and US Airways. US Airways, which offers some nonstop commuter flights out of Washington National, currently is quoting a round-trip fare of \$209, based on a 21-day advance purchase.

WHEN TO GO: Spring through fall. I enjoyed early May, because days were sunny and mild and I avoided the summer crowds.

WHERE TO STAY: In northeastern Alabama, four state parks—Lake Guntersville, DeSoto, Cheaha and Lakepoint—offer attractive, moderately priced and conveniently located accommodations in scenic settings. Depending on the resort, you can choose to stay in a hotel room, a chalet or a cabin.

Lake Guntersville and Lakepoint are lake parks with fishing, boating, tennis and a swimming beach. Lake Guntersville, the fanciest of the four, also boasts an 18-hole golf course. DeSoto and Cheaha are mountain parks, although Cheaha does feature a swimmable lake. All four parks operate swimming pools and other resortlike facilities.

Depending on the park, a hotel room for two ranges from \$44 to \$60 a night. For information or reservations, call 1-800-ALA-PARK (1-800-252-7275).

WHERE TO EAT: I ate breakfast and dinner daily in the park dining rooms. At Lake Guntersville and Lakepoint, where I stayed,

the decor proved surprisingly elegant and the picture window views were great. Menus stuck to standard fare—steaks, chops, fried chicken, local fish and pasta—simply but tastily prepared. Wine and beer are available. A full meal with salad, dessert, two glasses of wine, tax and tip came to about \$20 to \$22 per person. A fully country breakfast (juice, two eggs, sausage, hash browns, toast, coffee), tax and tip included, was less than \$6 per person.

TRIBUTE TO HOOSIER BOYS' TOWN

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to Hoosier Boys' Town as it celebrates its 50th anniversary. In particular, I would like to congratulate Hoosier Boy's Town Executive Director, Anita Dygert-Gearheart, board of directors, staff, and volunteers, who should be proud of the outstanding service their efforts have provided the young people of Indiana's First Congressional District. Hoosier Boys' Town is beginning its 4-day anniversary celebration today on its campus in Schererville, IN. The Hoosier Boys' Town Board of Directors, residents, staff, former residents, friends, and volunteers, have invited the general public to join them in celebrating the organization's 50 years of service and commitment to the communities of northwest Indiana.

Founded in July 1947, Hoosier Boys' Town was established by a beloved priest from East Chicago, IN, Msgr. Michael Compagna, in an effort to help disadvantaged youth fully utilize "their God-given potential." Msgr. Compagna's vision was to create a village composed of small cottages, with facilities offering emotionally disturbed boys a supportive and loving family environment. After 3 years of internal debate, Hoosier Boys' Town became a reality as it opened in the form of a home for disadvantaged boys, where Father Compagna's mission of providing a healthy environment for children in need materialized through the administration's guiding beliefs in individual worth and the value of education and community.

Over the years, Hoosier Boys' Town has upheld Monsignor Compagna's mission through its continued devotion to children at risk of failing in society. The organization currently administers an array of programs geared toward children experiencing problems of neglect, abuse, chemical dependency, abandonment, and learning disability. Countless youths and their families find a caring haven in the community-based residential, educational, and treatment centers of Hoosier Boys' Town, which focus on the enhancement of body, mind, and spirit. Hoosier Boys' Town success in positively changing the lives of young people has not gone unnoticed, for the organization has recently received accreditation of its services by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, Inc. Accreditation attests that the services provided by Hoosier Boys' Town fulfill the community's needs in a safe, professional, and quality-conscious manner.

While the progress Hoosier Boys' Town has made from the time of its inception is appar-

ent, the organization is fully aware that a vision for the future is necessary for continued growth and service. Hoosier Boys' Town's vision includes the expressed goal of becoming the premier residential treatment facility in northwest Indiana for children and their families. In order to achieve this goal, the organization is launching its first ever Capital Campaign, which is expected to raise the \$2.5 million needed to build a multipurpose building, serving as both an education and dining facility. Currently, Hoosier Boys' Town educate 40 to 50 young people each day and serves approximately 400 meals daily.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Hoosier Boys' Town on the occasion of its 50th anniversary celebration. The hard work and dedication everyone involved with this distinguished organization has put forth is truly inspirational.

IMMEDIATE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE FACILITATION ACT

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 1997

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, the United States has acted boldly in the pursuit of Middle East peace for several years under two administrations. The Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1993 [MEPFA], which allows our Government to recognize the Palestinians, work with them, and provide them the help they need to establish security and work for a peaceful existence with Israel, will expire on August 12.

At this moment, there are quiet efforts to resume constructive diplomacy between the Israelis and the Palestinians. The United States is trying to bridge differences and refocus talks on the true goals first agreed to in the Oslo Accords. However, within the next few days this body is likely to let MEPFA expire while considering whether to cut off all United States assistance to the Palestinians, leaving no incentive to work with our Government to achieve peace. In fact, the expiration of MEPFA will mean that any United States contact with the Palestinian Authority is illegal after August 12.

Rather than completely obstructing our administration at this most crucial stage by punishing the Palestinians, I believe it is in our own best interest to extend MEPFA for another 180 days so we do not risk the loss of peace—or worse yet—the resumption of war.

I am, therefore, introducing a bill with Representative RAHALL to extend MEPFA for 6 months. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill, and if at all possible, for this body to extend MEPFA before we leave for the August recess.

MEPFA was approved by Congress to allow the administration to have the tools it needs to promote peace. It has twice been extended. We must not let this authority lapse.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2158) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I congratulate Chairman LEWIS and Ranking Member STOKES on producing a bipartisan bill with broad support in the House.

However, Mr. Chairman, I would like to highlight the multi-Family Preservation Program in the hopes that the HUD-VA Conference Committee will appropriate funding for this essential program. This program is very important to low-income communities not only in my congressional district but throughout the Nation because it is critical to maintaining our country's dwindling affordable rental housing supply.

The Preservation Program keeps housing affordable for low-income families, the disabled and the elderly by allowing private owners to transfer their rental properties to tenant-endorsed nonprofits who will continue to serve this vulnerable residential population. As a consequence of HUD's Preservation Program, over 800,000 units of affordable housing have been preserved.

Currently, there are 260 projects nationwide, consisting of more than 29,000 units, that need funding to avoid their conversion to market-rate rentals and prevent the displacement of thousands of low-income tenants.

The Preservation program continues to have solid bipartisan support. As recently as June 20th, I joined 27 of my California colleagues from both sides of the aisle in sending a letter of support for the Preservation Program. In our letter, we stressed that California alone has 25 percent of the country's unfunded preservation properties. This represents approximately 5,000 units awaiting preservation funding in California alone.

The Preservation program has been criticized as being too expensive and many references have been made to a pending GAO report, which is critical of the program. While there have been some high costs associated with the program, the fact is that it is relatively inexpensive. In its findings, GAO cites almost exclusively the high cost preservation projects, which are not representative of the entire group of properties in the national queue. While I have no doubt that the GAO findings are accurate for the small sample studied, this report does not mean that Congress should make hasty or ill-advised conclusions about the program's overall true costs to the taxpayer based on an unrepresentative sampling.

It is important to note that temporary enhanced vouchers—which are being proposed to mitigate the loss of housing for thousands

of displaced low income families and the elderly—are not a viable or cost-effective substitute for this important housing stock. Vouchers will not protect the physical housing stock, nor will they guarantee the current residents any long-term security because it is dependent on annual congressional appropriations.

The HUD-VA Conference Committee has consistently recognized the value of the Preservation Program and provided adequate funds over the past 2 years. I rise to ask the conference committee to mirror the sensible and cost-effective efforts of past years and fund the Preservation Program at a level of \$350 million for fiscal year 1998.

TRIBUTE TO COL. WILLIAM D. CUMMINGS

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 1997

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedication, public service, and patriotism of Col. William D. Cummings, U.S. Air Force, on the occasion of his retirement after a career of faithful service to our Nation. Col. Bill Cummings' strong commitment to excellence will leave a lasting impact on the vitality of our modern warfighters, commanding admiration and respect from his military and civilian colleagues as well as Members of Congress.

Colonel Cummings of Summerfield, NC, is a graduate of East Carolina University. He is serving his last assignment in the Air Force as Deputy for Program Integration and Congressional Activities, Deputy Chief of Staff, Air and Space Operations, in the Pentagon.

After earning his pilot's wings at Vance Air Force Base, OK in 1968, Colonel Cummings worked as a C-130 pilot at Sewart Air Force Base in Tennessee. As an AC-130A gunship aircraft commander in Thailand, Colonel Cummings accumulated 118 combat missions during the Vietnam War with the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing. After returning to the United States he was assigned as a tactical airlift director, and in June 1982 he was selected to command the 375th Transportation Squadron.

Just 4 years after he was named senior airlift controller, Colonel Cummings became vice commander for the 322d Airlift Division at Ramstein AB, Germany in 1991. As commander of the 621st Air Mobility Support Group, he directed strategic airlifts in 12 countries through Europe and Saudi Arabia. Upon his return to the United States he assumed his current responsibility of Deputy for Program Integration and Congressional Activities for Deputy Chief of Staff, Air and Space Operations.

The colonel is a command pilot with over 3,000 flying hours. His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross with one oak leaf cluster, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with seven oak leaf clusters, and the Air Force Commendation Medal. He has also received the Outstanding Unit Award with "V" for valor and five oak leaf clusters, the Organizational Excellence Award, the Combat Readiness Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with two service stars, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm.

Our Nation, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Air Force, and his family can truly be proud of the colonel's many accomplishments. He is a man of extraordinary talent and integrity. While his honorable service will be genuinely missed in the Department of Defense, it gives me great pleasure to recognize Col. William D. Cummings. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

SUPPORT VICTIMS OF FLOODS IN POLAND

HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 1997

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to bring news of the severe flooding that has ravaged Poland. As we speak, the people of Poland and much of Eastern Europe are struggling bravely to resist the brute forces of nature as the flood waters continue their unrelenting rise. So far, dozens of innocent people have died in what is being described as Eastern Europe's worst tragedy since Chernobyl. As survivors of the floods can tell you, the worst part is the wait; the slow, anguished wait as the flood waters slowly consume these peoples' homes, their businesses, their property. The wait as an entire life sinks below the muddy ripples of the flood.

Thankfully, compassion is not dead in our society, and countless concerned Americans, many of Polish descent, have heeded Poland's desperate cries for help. In my own home town of Chicago, churches and community organizations have responded to the call for flood relief. I have been happy to be able to assist local leaders and communities in the effort to get disaster relief to those who need it most.

While the response so far has been impressive, the need is still greater. Congress cannot stand idly by in Poland's time of need. It has been less than a decade since Poland threw off the shackles of communism. The damage from these floods threatens the gains Poles have made in building a free and prosperous society.

The Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation as well as the American Red Cross are spearheading efforts to channel relief from America to needy families in Poland. These contributions will help provide food, medicine and shelter to victims of the flooding. Please call the Polish American Congress at (773) 763-9944, or the American Red Cross at 1-800-435-7669 (1-800-HELP-NOW), to find out what you can do to help. I urge all Americans to heed the urgent call for disaster relief in Poland.

A DEMOCRATIC VIEW ON HONG KONG

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, over the past month, we have been subjected to a barrage of Communist Chinese propaganda on the reversion of Hong Kong to China. The Communist Chinese view was amply covered in

the Western media. And in New York City, the Communist Chinese were allowed to put on a parade which glorified the takeover.

I would like to submit for the RECORD a viewpoint on Hong Kong by a democratic Chinese individual, who happens to be the President of Taiwan. President Lee has eloquently described in USA Today how democratic Taiwan, and not totalitarian Communist China, represents the model for the future of Hong Kong and indeed, China itself.

[From the USA Today, June 30, 1997]

TAIWAN YIELDS MODEL FOR A FREE HONG KONG

(By Lee Teng-hui)

Today, the era of colonial rule will come to an end in Hong Kong. This is a proud event for all Chinese wherever they are, and offers a new opportunity for creating a democratic Chinese nation. We earnestly hope that the Beijing authorities will be able to maintain the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, and will ensure that the people of Hong Kong continue to enjoy freedom, democracy and basic human rights. This is the only way to act in accord with the joint values and trends of mankind today, regional peace and development, and the common dignity and interests of all Chinese people.

Taiwan's experience offers reason for optimism.

A little more than one year ago, the Republic of China successfully held a direct presidential election on Taiwan, completing a crucial objective of our political reform. At the time, the concept of constitutional government stressed by Americans over two hundred years ago kept coming to my mind: "... all Men are created equal, ... they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, ... among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness ... to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed."

Indeed, with the joint effort of the entire populace and their government, the Republic of China has upheld the principle of popular sovereignty on Taiwan, and has succeeded in lifting martial law, liberalizing the formation of political parties, realizing the practice of free speech, re-electing all national parliamentarians who had been in office for a long time, and carrying out a direct presidential election. Through these endeavors, the Republic of China has undergone profound change, and has become a fullfledged democracy.

However, we cannot overlook the fact that still over 20 percent of the world's population, most of whom live on the Chinese mainland, have no way to enjoy these rights. The Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Strait share the same cultural and racial heritage. Thus, there is no reason why we cannot jointly build a system of democracy and freedom, and fully exercise our God-given rights.

In 1979, before material law was lifted in Taiwan, a number of protesters demonstrating against government censorship of their magazine were arrested and jailed in what became known as the Kaohsiung Incident. At the same time, the Chinese communists authorities arrested the human rights activist Wei Jingsheng. Today, many of those involved in the Kaohsiung Incident have redeemed themselves through the ballot box and have become important elected political leaders on Taiwan. However, Mr. Wei remains in jail. The marked differences in systems and values between the two sides are the fundamental reason why each of the two parts of the China we all want to see reuni-

fied one day still remain separate political entities.

Democracy has become a world trend, and is without doubt the greatest achievement of mankind this century. One reason civilization continues to progress is that we have the courage to realize our dreams, and we have the heart to care about each other and provide mutual support. We must continue to uphold this spirit and sentiment, so that democracy ultimately becomes the common way of life of all humanity. May people living in every corner of the global village enjoy democracy!

Thus, we cherish the young buds of democracy of the Chinese mainland. Certain forms of election in rural townships and villages have spread on the mainland in recent years. We are happy to see it succeed and call on the Chinese mainland authorities to show the courage and determination to boldly take the grand route to democracy. Join with us and bring democracy to all of Chinese society, seeking everlasting well-being and peace for the Chinese people!

Unquestionably, if Taiwan can achieve democracy, then Hong Kong should be able to maintain democracy, and there is no reason why the Chinese mainland can not do everything possible to head in that direction. This is the true way to solve the China problem.

In the 21st century, Mankind will certainly prove that "All roads lead to Democracy!"

HONORING DR. ALFRED M. BEETON, ACTING CHIEF SCIENTIST OF NOAA, UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and pay tribute to a scientist who has worked tirelessly for over 40 years to learn and teach about the Great Lakes environment. Dr. Alfred M. Beeton earned his post-secondary degrees in zoology at the University of Michigan and continued to conduct and direct research in the Great Lakes region until his appointment as acting chief scientist for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA] in 1996. This brief statement can scarcely touch upon the depth and breadth of Dr. Beeton's career accomplishments, but I shall try to highlight some representative achievements.

Dr. Beeton's work has spanned time beyond that of his personal career, from investigations into the evolution of the Great Lakes to recommendations for the future of policy affecting large lakes. In over 100 publications and speeches addressing scientists and policy makers, Dr. Beeton has touched on the most pressing issues affecting the quality of the Great Lakes. Some of the topics to which he has added his knowledge and insight include human factors affecting water quality, thermal pollution from powerplants, basic ecology of fish and other aquatic organisms, and how policy can begin to address these and other issues.

Dr. Beeton's legacy will live on long after his retirement in August. Throughout his career as a professor at the Universities of Michigan and Wisconsin, Wayne State University, and Oregon State University, he trained hundreds of undergraduates and over 30 graduate stu-

dents in aquatic science. In testimony before the Senate, Dr. Beeton helped to shape policies that initiated the restoration of the Great Lakes. He served for 10 years as director of the Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab [GLERL] in Ann Arbor, MI, helping to shape NOAA's mission on the United States' fourth coast.

It was during his tenure as GLERL's director that I came to know Al Beeton personally. My district in Ohio is entirely within the Great Lakes basin, and includes the largest portion of Ohio's Lake Erie shoreline of any Ohio congressional district. Thus, the quality of the Great Lakes environment is inextricably tied to the quality of life for my constituents. Dr. Beeton has served as the embodiment of institutional memory for Great Lakes environmental issues. Al Beeton has been the person my staff could always turn to for an honest assessment of the status of our great natural resource.

During the past several years of fiscal restraint, GLERL has faced a flat Federal contribution to its budget. This has meant a loss of staff and reprioritization of the lab's research programs. At the same time, interest in the restoration of Great Lakes resources has steadily increased. Threats to the Great Lakes from invading species and persistent toxins have been a continuous scourge and are not made less serious by Congress' intent to control the Federal budget. Throughout this period, Dr. Beeton has successfully led GLERL's efforts to study problems as large as the control of zebra mussels and the instantaneous forecasting of weather on the coastlines. As a result, we have a much better handle on how to protect the lakes and live safely on their shores than a decade ago.

In 1996, Dr. Beeton planned to retire from his long and successful career and perhaps to enjoy the fruits of his labor while sailing. The Commerce Department tapped Dr. Beeton to serve as Acting Chief Scientist of NOAA and he began this new chapter in his life on June 21, 1996. In this position, he has coordinated with other NOAA administrators to establish the agency's scientific policy and to provide guidance to NOAA managers on scientific and technology issues. Among other things, the Office of the Chief Scientist is responsible for coordinating NOAA activities to implement the National Environmental Policy Act, managing NOAA's technology transfer program, and administering the National Climate Program.

The appointment of a Great Lakes scientist to the highest scientific office in the Nation's ocean-oriented agency is an indication of the recognition of the fourth coast as an important aquatic resource. Al Beeton has brought prominence to a natural resource which was once treated more like a sewer than the national treasure it is. His efforts have been integral to the restoration of the lakes and we owe him our gratitude. Dr. Beeton will retire from his post as Acting Chief Scientist in August, and with this I bid him a fond farewell.

A TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY DANZIS BIER

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mrs. Dorothy

Danzis Bier, a New Jersey resident, who died on July 8, at the age of 91. Throughout most of her life, she was deeply tied to the 13th Congressional District of New Jersey; and those ties continue to enrich this area of New Jersey.

Mrs. Bier was born in Newark, delivered by her uncle, Dr. Max Danzis, a founding physician of Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. Her youth was spent growing up in Highland Park, Bayonne, and Newark, where she graduated from Newark's South Side High School in 1922. After graduating from the Newark Normal School, which is now Kean College, Mrs. Bier received her teaching certificate and taught in the Newark school system.

In 1929, Mrs. Bier married David Bier and, shortly thereafter, the couple settled in Jersey City. Their only child Marcia was born at Beth Israel Medical Center in 1930.

Mr. and Mrs. Bier owned and operated Mother Bier's Bakery at 121 Madison Street in Hoboken until the mid-1960's when poor health forced Mr. Bier to close the business. At that time, although in her 60's, Mrs. Bier returned to the education field and taught preschool children in Jersey City from 1965 until 1970 under the Head Start Program. She retired in 1970 and moved to Millburn, NJ, to be near her daughter, son-in-law Cyril Greenstein; and her beloved grandchildren, Scott and Randy. She moved once again, to Miami, FL, in 1987 where her daughter and son-in-law had relocated.

Surviving her are her daughter and son-in-law of Aventura, FL; her grandsons, Scott Greenstein, M.D., of Middlebury, CT; and Randy Greenstein of Rockville, MD. She was also the great-grandmother of Max and Jesse Greenstein of Middlebury, CT; and a nephew, Alan Danzis of Berkeley Heights, NJ. Her husband David passed away in 1969; and her only sibling, Leo Danzis of Elizabeth, NJ, and vice president of the Ketchum Pharmaceutical Co., died in 1977.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Bier was a unique woman; witty, intelligent, and politically astute throughout her life. I know that she was adored by her family; and that she adored them. I extend my condolences to her daughter and her grandsons. They lost the matriarch of their family. New Jersey lost a beloved daughter who truly has left my area poorer for her passing.

“THWARTING OUR IMMIGRATION LAWS”

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, this administration has proved once again that they are soft on illegal immigration. Two weeks ago, I was outraged when Attorney General Janet Reno had defied the clear will of Congress and halted the deportation of thousands of illegal aliens. Mr. Speaker, the very person appointed to uphold the laws passed by this legislative body is now trying to find ways around them. I find that absolutely unacceptable.

Yesterday, the Clinton administration presented to this Congress a proposal to weaken the immigration reform law the President signed less than a year ago. They claim there

are special circumstances for some that should allow them to stay in this country beyond what the law allows. Mr. Speaker, I believe there may be a heart-wrenching story behind every man, woman or child that wishes to enter this country and tries to do so illegally. But we cannot begin to arbitrarily pick winners and losers. I urge my colleagues to reject this and any other proposal to revisit this issue and weaken our immigration laws.

Last year, we purposely raised the bar on those seeking to enter this country by means of political asylum because we knew the process was being abused. It was not an oversight and it was not done secretly. If the administration had an objection, it should have been addressed at that time. To come back to this argument is not only a mistake, but a breach of the delicate relationship between Congress and the administration. To use the Attorney General of the United States to undermine the laws we pass is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, several of my colleagues and I have sent a letter to the Attorney General urging her not to find ways to break our laws for the political will of the President. I hope my colleagues will stand with us in blocking any attempt to try and weaken our immigration laws by either stopping deportations by an administrative order or by new legislation. It is not just a violation of what this Congress passed less than a year ago, it is an act of defiance against those citizens who have suffered from the effects of illegal immigration. Mr. Speaker, this is just one more way in which this President and his administration have tried to weaken what it means to be a citizen of the United States.

STATE DEPARTMENT REPORT ON U.S. POLICIES IN SUPPORT OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, our Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights, John Shattuck, appeared before a meeting of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus to present to the Members of Congress the State Department Report “United States Policies in Support of Religious Freedom: Focus on Christians.” This report is an indepth summary of the particular measures taken by the administration to address the issue of Christian persecution as an element of U.S. Government policy to fight against religious persecution and discrimination around the world.

This report, Mr. Speaker, was prepared by the Department of State in response to a request by the Congress in the statement that accompanied the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1997. That request is principally the effort of our colleague from Virginia, Congressman FRANK WOLF, who is one of the most active of our Members in leading the fight against religious persecution around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the administration for its efforts in dealing with the problem of religious persecution. The State Department's annual “Country Reports on Human Rights Practices” provides indepth information about

religious freedom issues, and in the most recent editions of this important human rights document, Secretary Shattuck singled out religious persecution as an area of special attention and concern. Last year, then-Secretary of State Warren Christopher established the Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad, with a membership of some 20 prominent Americans representing a wide range of religious groups and nongovernmental organizations. This group has had an auspicious beginning to its work, and I look forward to its recommendations and activities in support of religious liberty around the world. I applaud Secretary Shattuck and our Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, for their commitment to human rights and to dealing with religious liberty.

Mr. Speaker, Secretary Albright was particularly eloquent in her foreword to the report in expressing the commitment and the reasons for the commitment of the United States to the principles of religious freedom. I would like to quote for the benefit of my colleagues her statement in the introduction of the report:

Religious liberty, the freedom to proclaim a religious identity and practice it without fear, is an aspiration and an inalienable right of people everywhere. When practiced with tolerance, it can be one of the keys to a stable, productive society. But generations of hatred may be sown when it is delayed or denied. It is central to the strength of free peoples. Its protection and promotion are important elements of America's support for human rights around the globe.

First, because the right to profess and practice one's religion is basic to the life of every human being and is recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Second, people who are free to profess their beliefs without fear and to live by them without impediment will do more to enrich their societies than people held back by prejudice. Where the rights of persons of any faith are not secure, no one's rights are secure. And violent persecution that begins with one group all too often engulfs whole nations in conflict.

And third, freedom of religion is central to American history and identity. Because our country has chosen ever since its creation to stand for universal principles of tolerance and liberty, free people around the world have chosen to stand with us.

That is why our commitment to religious liberty is even more than the expression of American ideals: it is a fundamental source of our strength in the world. We simply could not lead without it. We would be naive to think we could advance our interests without it.

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly endorse this statement by our distinguished Secretary of State. Freedom of religion is a fundamental principle of human rights, a fundamental aspect of our foreign policy, and I welcome the support of the administration for this fundamental right.

Mr. Speaker, Secretary John Shattuck made an outstanding presentation regarding the administration's report to the members of the Human Rights Caucus yesterday. Secretary Shattuck, as always, was well prepared, articulate, and concise. The report deals primarily with the restrictions and persecution against Christians, although as I and my colleagues in the Congressional Human Rights Caucus have repeatedly emphasized, human rights are indivisible. A government that abuses ethnic minorities is also likely to restrict religious freedom, and a government that

abuses its Jewish or its Muslim or its Baha's believers is also a government that is likely to persecute members or portions of its Christian community as well. The death, imprisonment, and persecution of Christians for their religious beliefs affects some 150 million people around the world. The violation of the rights of Christian believers include discrimination in employment, political harassment, restrictions on the exercise of political rights, the imposition of harsh prison sentences, torture and inhumane conditions in prison, and in some cases the enslavement of women and children.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues some of the countries which are serious violators and which were identified in the State Department report. China is one of the principal violators of freedom of religion, despite its own constitutional promises of freedom of belief. The report notes: "The government of China has sought to restrict all actual religious practice to government-authorized religious organizations and registered places of worship." In a classic catch-22 situation, Roman Catholic church organizations which recognize the authority of the Pope will not be registered because they recognize and owe spiritual allegiance to an authority out of China. Any Vatican-affiliated Catholics are considered unregistered.

The Government in Beijing has cracked down on unregistered Roman Catholic and Protestant groups, and it has raided and closed down groups that simply gather to worship in each other's homes. Religious leaders of these groups have been detained and been subjected to lengthy interrogation and in some cases beating and physical abuse.

A number of other countries were identified in the report because of official policies limiting or prohibiting freedom of religious expression. In Sudan religious persecution of Christians has reached incredible levels, including torture, outrageously long prison sentences, and enslavement of women and children. Similar problems exist in a number of Islamic countries. Saudi Arabia prohibits public and private religious observances by members of all non-Muslim religions. Countries which recognize Islamic Shari's Court rulings also have a serious record of violations of religious freedom. A Lebanese Christian, Elie Dib Ghalib, was arrested in the United Arab Emirates some 18 months ago in connection with his marriage to a Muslim woman. A Shari's Court ruled that the marriage was null and void, their relationship was determined to be immoral, and he was sentenced to 39 lashes and a year of imprisonment.

Mr. Speaker, even some of our closest allies have legislation and government practices which are surprisingly restrictive of religious freedom. Greece, a country widely acclaimed as "the birthplace of democracy," has a religious registration law that is surprisingly restrictive for all non-Orthodox religious communities. Similar serious problems exist in Russia and other republics of the former Soviet Union, where post-Communist governments are dealing with demands of existing religious organizations to limit other, primarily Christian groups, from establishing a presence in these newly independent countries.

In this context, Mr. Speaker, I was most encouraged by the decision, announced the day of our briefing with Secretary Shattuck, by Russian President, Boris Yeltsin to veto the highly restrictive law on religions that was

passed by the Russian Duma and Federation Council a few weeks ago. His action took great political courage, and I welcome his action.

I do want to call the attention of my colleagues to some countries where governments have taken action to assure religious freedom, despite strong pressures against such policies. In striking contrast with the restrictive practices of the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Government of the Republic of China on Taiwan has shown tolerance for religious diversity and respect for religious liberty. India, a country with strong indigenous religious traditions, has also shown considerable understanding of the importance of assuring freedom of religion.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to give careful consideration to this important document on U.S. Policies in Support of Religious Freedom. The Department of State has compiled an excellent report on the current status of religious liberty around the world. We must continue to work together with the administration and intensify our efforts to assure that governments around the world respect the religious rights of their citizens. As Secretary Albright noted in quoting Thomas Jefferson: "It behooves all who value liberty of conscience for themselves to resist invasions of it in the case of others; or that case may, by change of circumstances, become their own."

MCDADE AND FAZIO INVESTORS IN AMERICA

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, with these late night sessions, I have had the opportunity to read the report of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development. Chairman JOE MCDADE and Ranking Democrat VIC FAZIO, and their subcommittee colleagues, have crafted a document which invests in America.

Our Nation has a variety of problems concerning energy and water development throughout the land. Whether flood control, environmental problems, nuclear waste disposal, or electric power—among other key priorities—they have been judicious in their decision making.

I am particularly grateful that the Subcommittee, and now the House, have recognized the flood dangers along the Los Angeles, Rio Hondo, and San Gabriel rivers in southeastern Los Angeles County. Five hundred thousand residents live and work in 177,000 structures which are at risk of flooding. The committee's decision to increase the funding needed to implement the largest urban flood control project in the United States is deeply appreciated.

FAMILY FEST: A COMMUNITY
EVENT TO HELP IMPROVE EDUCATION

HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding community event that has occurred in my district for the past 10 years. Madonna High School's Family Fest is a 5-day outdoor festival that brings families together while improving educational opportunities for young women in the city of Chicago. Offering a wide array of family-oriented activities, the festival raises an average of \$12,000 a year in scholarships and financial aid for young women hoping to attend the Madonna High School. To date, proceeds have been able to provide 37 percent of the study body at Madonna High School with financial aid.

As Abraham Lincoln said in 1832, "Upon the subject of education . . . I can only say that I view it as the most important subject which we as a people may be engaged in." These sentiments on education expressed by President Lincoln 165 years ago still hold true today. Caring teachers, motivated students, and an involved community are the essential components to improving education in our country. Family Fest should serve as a model to the rest of the Nation on how community values and hard work can help improve our system of education, and ensure a brighter future for America.

Family Fest is proof positive that a community can come together to achieve a common goal. I can think of few goals more worthy of our support than improving educational opportunities for our young people. I commend the parents, staff, and students of Madonna High School for their hard work and dedication to this cause, and wish them continued success with this outstanding program.

HONORING PROF. JOHN BRITTAIN

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Connecticut's most outstanding citizens, a brilliant lawyer and a warrior for justice, John Brittain. Professor Brittain has been a member of the faculty of the University of Connecticut law schools since 1977. For those two decades, he has been a constant presence in my State, a voice of conscience that is heard whenever the rights of individuals are at stake.

John Brittain knows that the Nation's promise of equality under the law must never be allowed to become mere words. That promise is the central tenet of American life, and it must be kept for the sake of all our future generations. So John Brittain has made it his cause to see that the promise is kept—even when it is difficult and even when it is uncomfortable.

In 1989, Professor Brittain, among others, filed *Sheff versus O'Neill*, the landmark case challenging the racial, economic, and educational segregation between Hartford and the

surrounding schools districts as a denial of a student's fundamental right to an equal education under the Connecticut Constitution. After 7 years of litigation, the Connecticut Supreme Court issued a precedent-setting ruling, finding, in July 1996, that Hartford students were being denied equal educational opportunity. Although the State has not yet determined how best to address this, it is certain that Professor Brittain's efforts will only result in improving education, not only in Hartford but throughout the State.

Professor Brittain will soon join the faculty at Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law, writing what I am sure will be a fascinating book about his involvement in the Sheff case. I know I join with his Connecticut friends and colleagues in wishing him well in this latest chapter of his extraordinary life, and hoping that we will some day welcome him back to our State.

AMERICA ONLINE NEEDS TO
OFFER ITS SUBSCRIBERS IN-
FORMED CONSENT ON TELE-
MARKETING ISSUE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge America Online [AOL] to be up front with its customers over the issue of informed consent for telemarketing purposes.

An AOL subscriber myself, I was outraged when I learned the company planned to market its 8.5 million customers' telephone numbers to scores of telemarketing hucksters, without informing them or getting their consent. Under a siege of protests, the Internet provider canceled that plan but instituted another that still breaks faith with its subscribers. Now it plans to allow its own employees to make the telemarketing calls.

AOL still doesn't get it. Families sitting down to dinner do not want to be disturbed by unsolicited vendors. The company needs to make it clear to its customers up front what use it plans to make of their private information and then give them an easy option for protecting themselves from the unauthorized use of that data. And I emphasize "easy." If you've ever tried to opt out of AOL's marketing gimmicks, you know how hard it is. Good luck in even finding the option on the company's Web site.

What AOL should do is display a pop-up notification box informing subscribers of any new marketing schemes using customers' phone numbers and other personal information. This notification box should contain a simple yes or no option for customers to inform AOL of their decision whether to allow the company to release their personal information, or to permit AOL's own employees to market other companies' products to them.

AOL also needs to call itself to a higher standard. Originally, it said it was collecting its subscribers' phone numbers so it could call them if their account was tampered with or if their credit card was stolen—not for telemarketing purposes. Its revised plan amounts to a bait-and-switch tactic.

This whole saga is another example of how an incredibly useful and powerful medium can abuse the public trust. With power must come

responsibility. And if online companies aren't willing to police themselves, Congress may very well do it for them.

I have sponsored a bipartisan bill to safeguard the privacy of citizens' Social Security numbers and other personal information by restricting their marketability by credit bureaus, departments of motor vehicles, and the Internet. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 1813, the Personal Information Privacy Act.

THANK YOU, SISTER CARLA
DOLCE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a champion of the poor and disenfranchised in Mississippi, Sister Carla Dolce. Sister Carla was born in New Orleans, LA, where she served as a co-director of the New Orleans Training Center for Community Organizers, School Administrator and Teachers. She has served as president of three high schools in Dallas, TX; St. Louis, MO; and Alton, IL.

Sister Carla began her work as a community developer in Tunica, MS, through the Sacred Heart Southern Mission. She was the catalyst for the Tunica Organization of Women [TOW] an organization of women of color. TOW, together with five other northern Mississippi women's groups, formed the North Mississippi Leadership Network which is associated with other groups in a regional and technical network.

Sister Carla was also instrumental in forming the Tunica Citizens Committee for Education, a biracial group to support public education in Tunica. She has also supported education by working with Northwest Community College, the YOU (alternative education) Program, developing a credit union workshop and parent participation mini conference sponsored by TOW in partnership with the Education for the Mid-South and the Agriculture Extension Services.

Sister Carla has served as the eyes, ears, and body of support for the ill-housed in Tunica. Working tirelessly to see that maximum of government programs and funds are delivered to Tunica residents. Together Sister Carla and I worked with the State and national offices of Rural Development to provide over \$600,000 in housing loans for new construction and repairs. In general, Sister Carla's efforts were to support movement for change that worked to assist the people in their efforts to bring benefits equitably to all citizens. Sister Carla Dolce, teacher, motivator, and bridge-builder is now leaving Mississippi to bring her love and attention to those in need in Illinois. We will miss her greatly. Mississippi's loss is Illinois' gain.

IN TRIBUTE TO AND IN MEMORY
OF DR. ROBERT C. WEAVER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American and civil rights pioneer who died last Thursday. Mr. Speaker, Robert C. Weaver, had a life of many firsts. The great-grandson of a slave, and the son of a postal worker, Robert Weaver earned undergraduate, masters and doctoral degrees in economics from Harvard University. Dr. Weaver served as a college president, State rent administrator, this Nation's first Secretary for Housing and Urban Development—and first black member of any Cabinet—Presidential adviser, and chairman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Before the landmark decades of civil rights advances, Weaver was one of a small group of African-American officials in the New Deal era who, as part of the "Black Cabinet," pressured President Franklin D. Roosevelt to strike down racial barriers in Government employment, housing, and education. Working for the U.S. Department of the Interior, and copious experience as an educator and economist led to Weaver's appointment as New York State rent administrator, making him the first African-American with a State cabinet rank.

Through a host of government and private jobs, Weaver emerged as a preeminent candidate to head a national cabinet department. But when President John F. Kennedy sought congressional support to create the Housing and Urban Development Department in 1961, and named Weaver to head it, the President encountered strong southern opposition and the plan was shelved.

From the time he became an aide to Interior Secretary, Harold Ickes in 1933, through his tenure at Housing and Urban Affairs in the late 1960's, Dr. Weaver was a crusader for civil rights, housing, and education. He was regarded as an intellectual, both pragmatic and visionary, who worked to improve the lives of blacks and other Americans both by expanding their opportunities and by bettering their communities.

After being a catalyst in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, Dr. Weaver turned to education in 1968. He taught at Hunter College, Carnegie-Mellon University, New York University, and even became president at Baruch College. He was honored for his hard work and dedication with at least 30 honorary degrees from elite institutions like Columbia University, the University of Michigan, and the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Weaver was known as a man who was only interested in doing his job, rather than promoting himself. His lifelong toil got urban legislation on the books and nurtured our country's first commitment to improve the quality of life in our Nation's cities. All of us who believe we can build an even greater society, are forever indebted to him.

Dr. Weaver served as a beacon of light, wisdom, and fairness. His appointments paved the path for numerous African-Americans and were monumental to many other African-Americans who found lower barriers and increased opportunity in the last third of the 20th

century. He will always be remembered as a distinguished public servant, having always used his keen intellect and common sense to attack complex social problems. For this, Mr. Speaker, the entire country will mourn Robert Weaver's passing, but we will also celebrate his extraordinary life.

THE NO ELECTRONIC THEFT [NET] ACT

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of the No Electronic Theft Act, also known as the NET Act. I commend the bill's author and my good friend, Representative BOB GOODLATTE of Virginia, for his leadership on this important copyright issue. As chairman of the Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property, I cannot overemphasize the importance of this legislation; in fact, I plan to schedule a hearing on the NET Act and the broader subject of copyright piracy later in the fall.

Industry groups estimate that counterfeiting and piracy of intellectual property—especially computer software, compact discs, and movies—cost the affected copyright holders roughly \$20 billion last year. Regrettably, the problem has great potential to worsen. The advent of digital video discs, similar to conventional compact discs but capable of storing far more material while rendering perfect secondhand copies, will only create additional incentive for copyright thieves to steal protected works.

The legislation introduced by Representative GOODLATTE will deter copyright piracy by further criminalizing the act in a firm but fair manner. The NET Act constitutes a legislative response to the so-called LaMacchia case, a 1994 decision authored by a Massachusetts Federal court. In LaMacchia, the defendant encouraged lawful purchasers of copyrighted software and computer games to upload these works via a special password to an electronic bulletin board on the Internet. The defendant then transferred the works to another electronic address and encouraged others with access to a second password to download the materials for personal use without authorization by or compensation to the copyright owners. While critical of the defendant's behavior, the court precluded his prosecution under a Federal wiretap statute, stating that this area of law was never intended to cover copyright infringement. The court's dicta indicated that Congress has tread cautiously and deliberately in amending the Copyright Act, especially when devising criminal penalties for infringement.

It is self-evident, Mr. Speaker, that this transgression—the unauthorized access to a company's products—has even greater potential to ruin small, start-up companies. Let us not forget that small businesses still comprise that sector of our national economy which provides the most employment opportunities for American citizens. Thousands of independent hackers motivated like LaMacchia will cause harm to our Nation's workers and the small businesses which employ them. LaMacchia's behavior was not trivial; it deserves to be criminalized.

Accordingly, the NET Act would proscribe the willful act of copyright infringement, either for "commercial advantage or private financial gain"; or by reproducing or distributing one or more copies of copyrighted works which have a retail value of \$5,000 or more. In direct response to LaMacchia, the legislation specifically encompasses acts of reproduction or distribution that occur via transmission, or computer theft. In addition, "financial gain" is defined as receiving "anything of value, including the receipt of other copyrighted works." This change would enable the Department of Justice to pursue a LaMacchia-like defendant who steals copyrighted works but gives them away—instead of selling them—to others. The legislation includes maximum statutory penalties of up to \$250,000 in fines and prison terms of 6 years.

Mr. Speaker, the public must come to understand that intellectual property rights, while abstract and arcane, are no less deserving of protection than personal or real property rights. The intellectual property community will continue its work in educating the public about these concerns, but we in the Congress must do our job as well by ensuring that piracy of copyrighted works will be treated with an appropriate level of fair but serious disapproval. Again, I congratulate Representative GOODLATTE for his leadership in this regard, and I look forward to working with him and other interested colleagues as we consider the NET Act in the near future.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM SHAW

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and a real talent. William Shaw, who helped shape the world around him for most of his 73 years, passed away recently. I know he will be sorely missed by all.

To me and my family, Will will be remembered as an especially close friend. Together with my father, former California State Senator Fred Farr, and the renowned photographer Ansel Adams, he established the Foundation for Environmental Design in the early 1960's. "We have art critics, music critics, theater critics, but we don't have any environmental critics. We need them badly, and I guess that's what you call us," Will is quoted as remarking in press reports at the time.

Indeed, a superb environmentalist and architect, Will is responsible for some of the most beautiful manmade scenery our Nation has. The recipient of the renowned Prix de Rome, Will's portfolio includes the school or architecture at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo as well as the Buddhist Temple in Seaside and the restoration of the Highlands Inn and the Custom House. He was an outstanding member of his community and country.

Born William Vaughn Shaw in Los Angeles on August 12, 1924, Will had lived in Monterey since 1954, and for the past 13 years in Pebble Beach. He was cofounder and past president of the Big Sur Foundation as well as the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects. In addition, Will was past president of the Monterey History and Art Association

and the Community Foundation of Monterey County.

During this difficult hour, Mr. Speaker, my entire family wishes his wife, Mary, and half-brother, Steven the very best. Will will always remain in our hearts.

TRIBUTE TO YALTA DUNBAR

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize Yalta Dunbar of Gunnison, CO, who will turn 100 on August 9 of this year. Ms. Dunbar has been a longtime resident of Gunnison and her knowledge and experience is a source of wisdom and guidance for all those around her. Her loving family will be putting on a celebration in her honor which will be held at the Elks Club in Gunnison.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Ms. Dunbar for the many years of service she has provided to her community and hope she serves as an inspiration to all of us.

Ms. Dunbar is the embodiment of hard work and healthy living which we pride ourselves on the western slope of Colorado. I wish her the very best on this special day and congratulate her on 100 fantastic years.

RECOGNITION OF ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAMS

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, elderly nutrition programs are crucial to the senior citizens in the State of Rhode Island and throughout our country. These programs, either at meal sites or through home delivery, serve many important roles. In addition to providing meal recipients with a balanced meal, these nutrition programs often offer seniors the chance to socialize with their peers and provides them with much-needed personal contact with caring and dedicated volunteers of all ages.

Annually, in my State of Rhode Island, nearly 17,000 seniors receive healthy, balanced, and nutritious lunches at 1 of the 72 local meal sites spread throughout the State. Over 5,000 seniors also receive meal assistance from the home delivery program, operated in Rhode Island by Rhode Island Meals on Wheels.

One woman, who lives in my district in Warwick, RI, recently shared with me her feelings on the importance of one of these elderly nutrition programs. Virginia, who will be 80 years old this month, receives a meal from Meals on Wheels and feels that it is one of the finest services around.

She recently wrote to me saying:

I depend on and must have well-balanced food. The lunches I receive from the Meals on Wheels Program enable me to eat nutritiously and have given me a way to recover from my recent surgery.

The volunteers who deliver the luncheons are so kind, friendly and the hour I hear them in their van and my doorbell rings, it

makes my otherwise sedentary life brighter up!

The food selections for the entire month are left at the beginning of the month, so I can anticipate my favorites. The noon hour is the highlight of my day, thanks to the friendly and kind volunteers who deliver my lunch.

She completes her letter by letting me know that she is concerned about the future of this program. She prays that she will never receive a notice that says, "Sorry, there will be no Meals on Wheels until further notice."

On behalf of the people who depend upon the elderly nutrition programs, I commend my colleagues for recognizing the importance of elderly nutrition programs by approving additional funding for elderly nutrition programs during debate on the Agriculture Appropriations bill. Furthermore, I respectfully request the conference committee to maintain and strengthen this commitment to our Nation's seniors by making sure critical funding for these programs does not dry up.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. PORTER J. GOSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2203) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Klug amendment to cut \$90 million in duplicate road funding from ARC.

Mr. Chairman, I want to be clear from the start—I believe that we should eliminate all funding for the Appalachian Regional Commission. In many ways, the economic development projects that ARC funds are more egregious than the highway projects. Absent elimination, though, I believe the Klug approach makes sense for both sides, as it only cuts a small portion of duplicate funding from the program.

The passionate statements of ARC supporters today serves to underscore what Reader's Digest had to say about ARC just a few years ago—"You can't kill a good giveaway!" A look at ARC's past funding shows that the money largely follows important legislators, rather than needy constituents.

An excellent example is the Corridor H program in West Virginia. A proposed 114 mile Federal four-lane highway through the scenic West Virginia mountains, Corridor H would cost \$1.1 billion, with 80 percent of the money coming from Federal taxpayers. The costs of carving through 4,000 foot mountains contribute to a \$10 million per mile project cost. The West Virginia Department of Transportation's own traffic projections do not support the need for this project and over 90 percent of residents from neighboring Virginia opposed Corridor H in public hearings. Yet, the beat goes on for this Federal pork, partly due to millions of dollars of annual ARC funding.

The ARC was founded over 30 years ago on the "Field of Dreams" proposition that, if

you build a massive highway system with Federal bucks, economic growth would ride into town. Under that assumption, two-thirds of all ARC money spent since 1965 has gone into highway construction. The original estimated cost to Federal taxpayers was \$840 million, yet the 26 highway system is now slated to cost \$9 billion and won't be completed until 2060.

Mr. Chairman, this debate especially hits home for growth States like Florida struggling to get their fair share of highway funds. While Florida has seen dramatic increases in its population, ARC has rewarded States that are losing people with more and more Federal funds. According to their own annual reports, \$872 million in ARC grants for highways, out of a total of \$1.1 billion, has been spent in West Virginia between 1980 and 1992, despite the fact that the State experienced a population loss of 7.2 percent over that time. As we struggle to make ends meet with limited transportation funds, this type of largesse is simply unacceptable.

Mr. Chairman, I am not a fan of the ARC program. I believe that Great Society relics like ARC need to be shelved altogether. But if we are going to provide funding for ARC, we should at least extract some savings for the American taxpayer. We should at least prohibit States from double dipping when other States are struggling to make ends meet. The Klug amendment is a responsible, conservative approach that recognizes the reality of our limited resources while striking a blow for fairness. I urge its adoption.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MORTIMER ELKIND

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Mortimer Elkind. Dr. Elkind is receiving the prestigious Enrico Fermi Award for his valuable contributions to cancer research. He is a cell biologist at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, which is in the Fourth Congressional District of Colorado. The Enrico Fermi Award recognizes extraordinary scientific research and is awarded through the U.S. Department of Energy.

Dr. Mortimer Elkind was born in Brooklyn, NY, and earned his Ph.D. in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He worked at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, MD, and the Donner Laboratory at the University of California at Berkeley. He also worked at the Brookhaven National Laboratory from 1969 to 1973, and then worked at Argonne National Laboratory until 1981. He was also Professor of Radiology at the University of Chicago. He is currently University Distinguished Professor at Colorado State University's Department of Radiological Health Sciences.

Dr. Elkind worked conjunctively with another Fermi Award winner, Dr. Withers to research the response of normal and malignant cells to ionizing radiation. Collectively, their work established a scientific basis for radiation therapy for cancer. Their work produced the "fractional hypothesis" which demonstrated the value of spreading out the radiation dose

treatment over time for the best effects. Dr. Elkind's work has significantly contributed to cancer treatment affecting almost 50 percent of cancer patients today in assisting them with care. This extraordinary work has tremendously impacted cancer research and I am proud of this service to the American people through his association with Colorado State University.

The effects of cancer on our society are extremely devastating, so it is Dr. Elkind's kind of dedication to research and mankind that illuminates the human spirit in America. Dr. Elkind is truly an American pioneer and I ask the Congress to join me in thanking him for his remarkable contributions to this country.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2203) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the Klug amendment. As has already been stated, there are no funds for Appalachian highways in the Transportation appropriations bill that passed the House earlier this week.

This bill today, the Energy and Water appropriations bill, which has been so well crafted by the chairman, JOSEPH MCDADE and the ranking member VIC FAZIO, includes \$160 million for the Appalachian Regional Commission [ARC]. This bill represents a cut below the President's request and is less than half the amount appropriated 15 years ago. If non-Defense discretionary programs had been reduced like this, we would have a balanced budget this year.

It is important to note that since the ARC was created over 30 years ago, the economic condition in the Appalachian Region has significantly improved. Poverty rates have been cut in half, infant mortality has been reduced by two-thirds, and good paying jobs have been created through infrastructure improvements.

But our job is not done. Businesses are closing and others refusing to locate in northern Alabama due to the lack of a four-lane highway to connect the cities of Atlanta, Birmingham, and Memphis.

For job creation and safety issues this is an unacceptable omission from our National Highway System.

Economic growth is hampered because it is so difficult to transport goods and services between Birmingham and Memphis and throughout the northwestern part of Alabama.

The current inadequate two-lane route is extremely dangerous with a traffic incident or fatality occurring every month for the last 50 months.

The ARC provides needed funds for highways located in the Appalachian Region like Corridor X, which is the proposed four-lane

route from Memphis to Birmingham. These funds do not take resources away from the transportation trust funds, and are matched by each State.

I understand the concern of the gentleman from Wisconsin and support eliminating Federal programs that are inefficient and wasteful. However, a closer look at the facts will demonstrate that funding for the ARC is crucial for the infrastructure and economic development of many rural areas including my congressional district.

I urge my colleagues to defeat the Klug amendment and support H.R. 2203.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NO ELECTRONIC THEFT [NET] ACT OF 1997

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the No Electronic Theft [NET] Act of 1997, along with three of my colleagues from the Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property of the Committee on the Judiciary, Representatives COBLE, FRANK, and CANNON. I would like to thank not only Chairman COBLE and ranking member FRANK for supporting this important legislation, but also a new and very valuable member of the subcommittee, CHRIS CANNON of Utah.

This legislation will close a loophole in our Nation's criminal copyright law, and will give law enforcement the tools it needs to bring to justice individuals who steal the products of America's authors, musicians, software producers, and others. Additionally, the bill will promote the dissemination of creative works online and help consumers realize the promise and potential of the Internet.

The Internet is a tremendous opportunity. Its growth and development are contributing to the economic expansion we have enjoyed in the last few years. Its true potential, however, lies in the future, when students and teachers can access a wealth of high quality information through the click of a computer mouse, and businesses can bring the benefits of electronic commerce to consumers. Before this can happen, creators must feel secure that when they use this new medium, they are protected by laws that are as effective in cyberspace as they are on main street.

The NET Act of 1997 clarifies that when Internet users or any other individuals sell pirated copies of software, recordings, movies, or other creative works, use pirated copies to barter for other works, or simply take pirated works and distribute them broadly even if they do not intend to profit personally, such individuals are stealing. Intellectual property is no less valuable than real property. As an example of the problems that creators are currently facing, I have attached an article from the Electronic Engineering Times, discussing the theft of recordings on the Internet.

Pirating works online is the same as shoplifting a video tape, book, or computer program from a department store. Through a loophole in the law, however, copyright infringers who pirate works willfully and knowingly, but not for profit, are outside the reach of our Nation's law enforcement officials. This bizarre situation has developed because the authors

of our copyright laws did not and could not have anticipated the nature of the Internet, which has made the theft of all sorts of copyrighted works virtually cost-free and anonymous.

The Internet allows a single computer program or other copyrighted work to be illegally distributed to millions of users, virtually without cost, if an individual merely makes it available on a single server and points others to the location. Other users can contact that server at any time of day and download the copyrighted work to their own computers. It is unacceptable that today this activity can be carried out by individuals without fear of criminal prosecution.

Imagine the same situation occurring with tangible goods that could not be transmitted over the Internet, or an individual making millions of photocopies of a best-selling book and giving them away. Imagine copying popular movies onto hundreds of blank tapes and passing them out on every street corner, or copying your personal software onto blank disks and freely distributing them throughout the world. Few would disagree that such activities are illegal—that they amount to theft and should be prosecuted. We should be no less vigilant when such activities occur on the Internet. We cannot allow the Internet to become the "Home Shoplifting Network".

The NET Act of 1997 makes it a felony to willfully infringe a copyright by reproducing or distributing 10 or more copyrighted works, with a value of at least \$5,000, within a 180-day period, regardless of whether the infringing individual realized any commercial advantage or private financial gain. It also clarifies an existing portion of the law that makes it a crime to willfully infringe a copyright for profit or personal financial gain. It does so by specifying that receiving other copyrighted works in exchange for pirated copies—bartering, essentially—is considered a form of profit and is as unlawful as simply selling pirated works for cash. In other words, if you take a pirated work, such as a software program, and trade it on the Internet and eventually barter to the point where you have a \$5,000 portfolio of software, the bill considers such bartering to be a criminal act—just as if you had sold the stolen software for \$5,000. In addition, the NET Act expressly calls for victim impact statements during sentencing and directs the sentencing commission to determine a sentence strong enough to deter these crimes.

Mr. Speaker, the United States is the world leader in intellectual property. We export billions of dollars' worth of creative works every year in the form of software, books, video tapes, sound recordings, and other products. Our ability to create so many quality products has become a bulwark of our national economy. By closing this loophole in our copyright law, the NET Act sends the strong message that we value the creations of our citizens and will not tolerate the theft of our intellectual property.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO COL. THOMAS DICKINSON OF BROWN COUNTY, OH

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, Brown County, OH will celebrate the 100th birthday of its oldest veteran, Col. Thomas Dickinson, tomorrow at the American Legion Hall in Georgetown. Colonel Dickinson has been an active member of the American Legion for 65 years and is a past commander of the Georgetown Post. His life story is a truly remarkable example of patriotism and service.

Colonel Dickinson tried for 18 months to enlist in the Army during World War I, but was told by Army doctors that his flat feet and bad heart would keep him out of the service. Nonetheless, he kept trying, and was finally allowed to enlist as a private in 1940—at the age of 43. He served in Europe during the war, in 1946, became Commissioner of Foreign Claims for Berlin. After leaving the military in 1947, he was recalled in 1949 and was sent to Korea in 1951, where he served as a public information officer. During his service in World War II and Korea, he earned 15 service medals, including the Bronze Star.

He retired from active duty in 1955, and began work as a legal adviser with the Army Corps of Engineers in 1960. His work with the Corps brought him to Georgetown, and he has kept his home in Brown County ever since, where he and his wife, Eloise, live on U.S. 52 along the Ohio River. I wish him an enjoyable 100th birthday and many more to come.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2169) making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the transportation appropriations bill. First, I thank Chairman WOLF and Ranking Member SABO for their excellent work and dedication to the transportation needs of our country and my State.

I would like to address an issue important to my State. In Rhode Island we are in the process of rebuilding our economy. Restructuring our transportation system is critical to the success of that rebuilding. The funding provided in this bill will help Rhode Island in developing a world-class transportation system that includes rail, road, and air transportation.

I would like to mention one project that will have a positive impact on my State and New England. The project is the re development of Quonset Point/Davisville, a 3,000-acre former naval facility in North Kingstown, RI, into a major industrial center in the Northeast.

The Quonset Point/Davisville project is of utmost importance to the economic development of my State and the region. The development of Quonset Point has broad-based support from business leaders, government officials, and the voters of Rhode Island.

Completion of the Rhode Island Rail Development project is a crucial component to providing adequate freight access to Quonset Point/Davisville. The funding provided in this bill along with a recently passed State bond agreement will go a long way to making sure that Rhode Island and New England will have adequate access to rail.

Again, I thank Chairman WOLF and Ranking Member SABO for their work in producing a bipartisan bill.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2203) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Chairman, it has recently come to my attention that the Army Corps of Engineers is planning to restructure its Great Lakes and Ohio River Division by first severely reducing the number of employees, particularly those with decision-making authority, at its Chicago office and eventually closing it down entirely. This plan is documented in an internal Army Corps memo that I have obtained from the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers Local 777. This plan would leave the Great Lakes region with only one office, in Cincinnati, and would obliterate the institutional memory that is so vital to Army Corps operations in this region. Losing the Chicago division office to Cincinnati will mean that the Great Lakes will most likely lose resources, funds, and priority consideration for projects in this region.

Last year, when this Congress passed the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1997, the Army Corps was directed to reduce its divisions to no less than six and no more than eight. The Department of the Army's Office of Civil Works submitted a plan to the Congress which detailed the restructuring plan, approved by the Secretary. This plan stated that, "The Great Lakes districts of the North Central Division will be combined with the districts of the Ohio River Division to form the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division. Division headquarters will remain in both Chicago and Cincinnati, each with a regional deputy commander and SES."

The closure of the Chicago office would affect my State as well as the entire Great Lakes region, and I am troubled by this action on the part of the Army Corps. When the Appropriations Committee wrote the language directing the Army Corps to reduce its overall division structure, I do not believe that it was the Committee's intention that a region with

projects as important as those in the Great Lakes should suffer disproportionately. The operations directed at the Chicago office are vital to projects conducted on the Great Lakes, and its closure would impede progress on many projects that my colleagues in the Great Lakes and I consider important.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to include for the RECORD two documents that are the basis for my concern. The first is a January 22, 1997, outline of the plan submitted by the Army Corps and approved by the Secretary of the Army to reorganize its division structure pursuant to the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of fiscal year 1997. This plan clearly indicated that the Army Corps intended to maintain dual Division headquarters offices in both Chicago and Cincinnati, each with decision-making staff. The second document that I am submitting for the RECORD was provided by the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers Local 777 in Chicago, IL. It includes an internal Army Corps memorandum from the Commander of the Great Lakes and Ohio Division regarding Division restructuring dated May 27, 1997. This memo states clearly the Army Corps' intention to severely reduce and eventually to close the Chicago Division office of the Great Lakes and Ohio Division. Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me this opportunity to bring this matter to my colleagues' attention.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, OFFICE
OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY,
Washington, DC.

Information for Members of Congress

The Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of fiscal year 1997 (PL 104-206) requires that the Secretary of the Army develop a plan that reduces the number of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers divisions to no less than six and no more than eight, with each division responsible for at least four district offices. The Secretary has approved such a plan; the purpose of this paper is to inform you of its provisions.

An outline of the plan is attached. The key elements of this plan are as follows:

1. The Corps will convert New England Division to district status and assign it under the North Atlantic Division.

2. The Alaska District will be transferred from the North Pacific Division to the Pacific Ocean Division (POD). POD headquarters will remain in Honolulu.

3. The Great Lakes districts of the North Central Division (NCD) will be combined with the districts of the Ohio River Division to form the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division. Division headquarters offices will remain in both Chicago and Cincinnati, each with a regional deputy commander and SES.

4. The districts of the North Pacific Division (less Alaska) will be combined with the districts of the Missouri River Division to form the Northwestern Division. Division headquarters offices will remain in both Portland and Omaha, each with a regional deputy commander and SES.

5. Two districts located along the Mississippi River (currently assigned to NCD) will be combined with the districts currently assigned to the Lower Mississippi Valley Division. The division will be renamed as the Mississippi Valley Division.

6. One district will be transferred from the Southwestern Division to the South Pacific Division.

A briefing on the components of this plan will be provided, if desired. Please contact the Director of Civil Works, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (202) 761-0108 to request such a briefing.

Furnished by: Office, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS DIVISION RESTRUCTURING PLAN, Jan. 22, 1997

Current alignment	Final configuration
Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, Alabama.	No change.
Transatlantic Programs Center, Winchester, VA.	No change.
Transatlantic Programs Center (Europe).	No change.
South Atlantic Division. Mobile, Jacksonville, Savannah, Charleston, Wilmington.	No change.
North Pacific Division. Alaska, Portland, Seattle, Walla Walla.	North Pacific and Missouri River divisions combined to form the Northwestern Division. Alaska District transferred to POD. Division HQ offices retained in Omaha and Portland, each with regional deputy commander and SES.
Missouri River Division. Omaha, Kansas City.	Omaha, Portland, Seattle, Kansas City, Walla Walla.
Pacific Ocean Division. Honolulu, Far East (Korea), Japan.	Pacific Ocean Division. Honolulu, Far East (Korea), Japan, Alaska.
New England Division	Division functions eliminated: renamed New England District (office remains in Waltham). Assigned to North Atlantic Division.
North Atlantic Division. New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Norfolk.	North Atlantic Division: New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Norfolk, New England.
Southwestern Division. Little Rock, Albuquerque, Fort Worth, Galveston, Tulsa.	Southwestern Division: Albuquerque District transferred to South Pacific Division. Little Rock, Fort Worth, Galveston, Tulsa.
South Pacific Division. San Francisco, Sacramento, Los Angeles.	South Pacific Division: San Francisco, Sacramento, Los Angeles, Albuquerque.
North Central Division. Chicago, St. Paul, Rock Island, Detroit, Buffalo.	Ohio River and North Central divisions combined to form the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division. St. Paul and Rock Island districts transferred to Mississippi Valley Division. Division HQ offices retained in Chicago and Cincinnati, each regional deputy commander and SES.
Ohio River Division. Louisville, Huntington, Pittsburgh, Nashville.	Louisville, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Nashville, Buffalo, Huntington, Detroit.
Lower Mississippi Valley Division. Memphis, Vicksburg, New Orleans, St. Louis.	Mississippi Valley Division: Memphis, Vicksburg, New Orleans, St. Louis, Rock Island, St. Paul

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL ENGINEERS,

Chicago, IL, July 21, 1997.

MS. ROCHELLE STURTEVANT,
Great Lakes Task Force, Office of Senator J. Glenn, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. STURTEVANT: The employees of the former North Central Division are extremely grateful for the support provided by Senator Glenn and the other representatives within the Great Lakes Region. We are remiss in not passing that sentiment on sooner. We waited because many feared what General Ballard outlined was not what would occur. Unfortunately, this appears to be the case.

I want to share with you some correspondence with significant implications for any continued presence, let alone a full service, functional and decision making Great Lakes Regional Office in Chicago.

The first is a memo from the Chief of Engineers Lieutenant General Joe Ballard, dated 27 May 1997, which approved the Chicago Division Office as the Great Lakes Regional Office under the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division (LRD). It includes a request that the LRD Commander personally contact LTG Ballard on designation of functional chiefs (where the functional chiefs, i.e., Planning, Engineers, Construction who will

have most decision-making authority, will be located). Note that the Chief made at least two of the decisions himself.

The second item is Permanent Orders No. 29-1, from the Headquarters Chief of Staff, dated 10 June 1997, which directs that LRD will INITIALLY maintain two Division Regional Headquarters, one of which is Chicago (emphases added). Note that the Great Lakes Regional Office has its own Unit Identification Code (UICs) while the Ohio River Regional Headquarters has the same UICs as the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division Office. That identifies that the Ohio River Regional Headquarters and the Division Office are one and the same.

The third item is a memo from Colonel Jansen, the Acting Commander of LRD, dated 23 June 1997. This memo formalizes his decision designating the division POC's. Thirteen of the functional chiefs are Cincinnati employees. Only two are Chicago employees, Mr. Dwight Beranek and Mr. Mike Lee. Mr. Beranek is an SES and could be transferred on short notice. Mr. Lee is the contract administrator and does not make decisions approving studies or projects. We question the legality of creating a new division office and staffing it non-competitively, with the only apparent qualification being the state of residency.

The last item is a May 7 e-mail memo from General Jeo Ballard to General Albert Genetti in response to my May 2 e-mail message. Note that one month after implementation, the Chief of Engineers already identifies that the two regional office concept "would not last forever."

Despite what we have been told, it appears that all future decisions will be stacked against the Chicago office. The decision making for the LRD will be controlled from Cincinnati, and our ability to influence decisions on Great Lakes projects and funding diminished. The number of Great Lakes Regional Office employees will be reduced to 20-25. It is questionable if we can be effective as such a small staff, and it is probable that the Chicago Division office will ultimately close. The new LRD Commander, General Van Winkle, assumes command this week. He could reverse or at least postpone the decision made by Colonel Jansen.

We believe that the whole dual Regional Office concept was simply a sham to allow the Chief of Engineers to transfer half of our workload, and slash our budget allotment. It also allowed time to drive employees out of our office with cash incentives to retire or take early retirements. These actions were taken before any consideration was given to what mission this office would accomplish or what competencies would be required. Our staff is being used to reduce the impact to Ohio employees caused by the loss of Ohio's military workload. By the time the truth becomes obvious to others, the destruction of this office's capability to function will be destroyed to the point that it will be irreversible. Of course, the true intentions are more obvious to those of us that see the continual indications of betrayal.

For several years, the Great Lakes Region has fought to keep this office open. Congress has rejected earlier plans prepared by General Williams and his deputy, General Genetti, as well as others. Congressional representatives were duped into acceptance of a plan that had no facts to substantiate it other than "trust me" we'll do what's right. At our Townhall meeting, General Ballard proudly proclaimed that he had no Corps experience. He was briefed on this issue by General Williams and other HQUSACE staff members that had long supported our closure. He made his decision in about one month. General Genetti is currently General Ballard's Deputy and is still available to

continue to influence decisions. General Genetti is also a former Ohio River Division Commander and an excellent conduit to Colonel Jansen his former deputy. General Van Winkle also has no Corps experience and was briefed by his predecessor Colonel Jansen. The deck was stacked from the start.

We are looking to Senator Glenn, the Great Lakes Congressional Task Force and Great Lakes Commission for counsel on how we should proceed. Perhaps the Corps should be asked to brief certain Representatives or staff, perhaps slowing down the process while we collectively develop language to be added to the next COE appropriations. The language could note that the intention of Congress is to preserve a functional, full service, decision making Corps Division-level presence in Chicago to service the Great Lakes.

Thank you for your time.

DUANE A. KOWALSKI,
President.

CECG, 27 May 1997.

Memorandum for Commander, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division.

Subject: Division restructuring.

1. Reference:

a. Public Law 104-206.

b. HQUSACE CECG memo dated 31 March 1997; Division Restructuring Implementation Guidance.

c. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Great Lakes and Ohio River Division Implementation Plan for Division Restructuring, dated 2 May 1997.

2. This headquarters has completed its review of the restructuring plan submitted in reference 1c. Your plan is approved for execution consistent with the comments which follow.

3. General comments for all division commanders:

a. The pace of change. Each commander has presented a timeline which aggressively implements the new organizational structure. I appreciate the work that went into developing your plans and commend all of you for the personal support you are investing to ensure the plan becomes a reality. However, I want to emphasize that there is no need to rush into this restructuring. It is my intent that the pace of transition to this new structure be deliberate and measured. I want you to ensure we are properly taking care of our people who may be impacted by these changes as well as keep interested parties informed of our progress. So pace yourself to do this right; it is more important that we do this smart rather than fast.

b. Resourcing. I also want to make it clear that I expect real savings in General Expenses (GE) funding, GE full time equivalent (FTE) staffing, and Operations and Maintenance, Army (OMA) funding to emerge from this restructuring. Some commanders have asked for staff increases. I am willing to consider modest increases in specific situations where individual division staff workload has truly been increased. But these increases will be made in a zero-sum environment, achieved through cross leveling throughout the Corps. There will be no net increase in overall Corps staffing levels. You need to understand and plan for the fact that division staffs will likely decrease in size even more over the next few years. Further guidance is provided in paragraph 4 below.

c. Information management. The alignment of our automated information systems (AIS) within the new organizational structure is the most complex aspect of this restructuring. We have identified 36 separate, Corps-wide systems that require changes. Many of these are interconnected, sharing data with external Department of Army systems and other Corps systems. Converting

these systems to the new EROC, UIC, and office symbols will be time consuming and will directly impact your execution timelines. I have appointed a taskforce to determine the best way to accomplish this. This task force will publish a detailed conversion schedule by mid-June. Other AIS issues:

(1) The CEAP cap and billing algorithm will remain as currently structured for the remainder of FY97. The FY98 guidance will align billing with the new Division structure. CEAP circuit relocations and upgrades will be based on individual requirements of impacted Divisions.

(2) For distress transferring from one division to another, the transfer of FY97 AIS data and other electronic records will be made to the gaining division. For divisions giving up districts, plans must be developed to archive prior year AIS data and electronic records at the current location (to include the regional Omaha and Chicago offices). These plans will be submitted along with the plan for records management as requested in CEIM-IR memo, dated 4 April 1997, subject: Division Restructuring Implementation—Records Management Impact.

(3) POC for information management issues is Ms. Cathy Sheridan, CEIM-L, (202) 761-0468.

d. FY99 Civil Works Operations and Maintenance roll-up. AIS systems will not be converted to the new structure in time to meet the FY99 Civil Works O&M Budget submittal suspense of 20 June. Consequently, districts who now report to a new division headquarters will prepare their submittals in coordination with that new division. Submittals will be made, however, according to the old MSC structure. District and MSC offices are currently engaged in putting their budget submittals into the O&M Automated Budget System (ABS). The budget will be arranged according to the new MSC organizational structure by HQUSACE after the division budget submittals have been received.

4. Resourcing:

a. Operations and Maintenance, Army (OMA): Fiscal Year 1997 OMA funds for division office staffing were distributed to the MSCs at the beginning of the fiscal year. There are no funds remaining in the headquarters for that purpose, nor were any additional OMA funds appropriated specifically for MSC restructuring. Further, Fiscal Year 1998 budget guidance issued earlier this year depicts a 20 percent overall reduction in funding compared with Fiscal Year 1997. Every effort must be made to constrain operating costs within current budgetary guidance. Any requirements over and above the current budgetary guidance must be accommodated through the Unfinanced Requirement (UFR) process through Resource Management channels.

b. General Expenses (GE): Fiscal Year 1998 GE funding and staffing guidance has been developed based on headquarters review of division restructuring plans, the President's Budget request of \$148 million, and projected outyear funding levels. This FY 98 funding guidance as well as a five-year resourcing plan will be provided under separate cover.

c. Restructuring Costs (\$000): Restructuring implementation costs totaling \$2.6 million Civil (GE) and \$1 million Military (OMA) were submitted. In some cases, requests for funds duplicated or referred to requirements identified in the joint GE/OMA Mid-Year Review. In other cases, requirements were not clearly related to the restructuring effort, and will require further review and coordination with your staff to determine the appropriate source and level funding needed as events unfold. The amounts shown for FY 97 will be allocated shortly, any additional requirements for FY 97 and FY 98 will require further justification incrementally as funds

are needed, such as the actual number and cost of approved VERA/VSIPs, prior to allocation of funds. However, to the extent funds are available, valid restructuring and related costs will be funded. Additional requests should be presented to the Directorate of Resource Management. ATTN: CERM-B, for review and coordination.

d. LRD specific GE and OMA staffing and restructuring funding guidance:

	FY 97		FY 98	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
Requested GE	N/A	209	145	650
Approved GE	.....	1160	121	1650
Requested other civil	N/A	.....	20	.....
Approved other civil	.....	.....	TBD	.....

¹ Costs for ADP upgrades, new equipment purchases in FY 97 totaling \$149K and \$500K for VERA/VSIPs in FY 98 need further review and justification prior to funding. FY 97 amount excludes \$97.3K requested for HR VSIP/VERA actions, which are to be funded as part of the Mid-Year Review.

e. The lead for coordinating FY98 FTE allocations to districts being transferred to a new division is the commander of the gaining division in coordination with the commander of the losing division. Responsibility for reallocation transfers to the gaining commander.

f. POC for resourcing issues is Mr. Bronel Jerrell, CERM-B, (202) 761-1104.

5. Division specific issues.

a. Dam safety: The plans do not discuss the activities required for the transfer of division level Dam Safety responsibilities. Since dam safety is an important function a detailed dam safety transfer plan should be developed at the earliest possible date and a copy of the plan furnished to the HQUSACE Dam Safety Officer for information. The detailed plan should address the 11 dams in the former North Central Division that are being transferred to this division. A portion of the plan should also address the 60 dams in the St. Paul and Rock Island Districts that are being transferred from the former North Central Division to the Mississippi Valley Division. CECW-EP is available to assist as required. POC is Mr. Charles Pearre, (202) 761-4531, or Mr. Robert Bank, (202) 761-1660.

b. Functional office chiefs. We have discussed the issue of how and when to designate chiefs for your various functional areas. Request you contact me personally to review your plans for operating as one staff located in two locations.

c. The Director of Resource Management will coordinate and integrate the timing and structure of EROC code changes to reflect the future division. Our short term policy will be to retain separate EROC codes for each of the regional headquarters. Our long term policy will be to move toward one EROC code per commander for division headquarters. The AIS team will recommend a time line which will coordinate and integrate these changes with all of the other interrelated AIS systems.

6. POC, this headquarters, MG Russ Fuhrman, (202) 761-0099 or COL Rick Mogren, (202) 761-0108.

JOE N. BALLARD,
LIEUTENANT GENERAL, USA,
Commanding.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY,
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,
Washington, DC, June 10, 1997.

Permanent Orders No. 29-1

Restructure within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Following organization/unit action directed:

1. Action: Great Lakes and Ohio River Division (LRD) LTCs; CEW072AA and CEW2SMAA. restructure will initially maintain two Division Regional Headquarters:

Great Lakes Regional Headquarters (located in Chicago). UICs; CEW02208 and CEW2SM08 and, Ohio River Regional Headquarters (located in Cincinnati, UIC, CEW072AA and CEW2SMAA.

Assigned to: Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

2. Action: Northwestern Division (NWD) UICs; CEW071AA and CEW2SJAA restructure will initially maintain two Division Regional Headquarters: North Pacific Regional Headquarters (located in Portland), UICs; CEW071AA and CEW2SJAA and, Missouri River Regional Headquarters (located in Omaha), UICs; CEW07107 and CEW2SJ08. Assigned to: Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Mission: Not Applicable

Effective Date: 2 June 1997

Military Structure Strength: NA

Military Authorized Strength: NA

Civilian Structure Strength: NA

Civilian Authorized Strength: NA

Accounting Classification: as provided by separate directive.

Authority: Public Law 104-206 and SECARMY approval of Division Restructuring Plan.

Special Instructions: EROCs and UICs will remain as assigned in the initial implementation guidance until conversion to one EROC and UIC for the division.

Format: 740

For the Commander.

OTIS WILLIAMS,
Colonel Corps of Engineers,
Chief of Staff.

JUNE 23, 1997.

Memorandum for Record.

Subject: Commander's action on VSIP/VERA for CELRD regional offices, June 1997.

1. The following records the Division Commander's decisions and guidance related to granting of VSIP and VERA to employees of the division regional offices in Chicago and Cincinnati, and related matters as made in a meeting with key staff on 12 June 1997.

2. Decisions on VSIP and VERA.

a. The effective date for all approved NLT 3 October 1997 unless otherwise indicated. Extension of effective dates for those approved for VERA to 3 October 1997 is made under the delegation of this authority.

b. HQUSACE, CEHR-E memorandum, 5 April 1995 subject: DOD Voluntary Early Retirement Authority (VERA).

b. Specific actions.

(1) Great Lakes Regional Office, Chicago.

AITLAND, Esther: VSIP approved. Effective date not later than 3 January 1998, earlier if possible. Mr. Beranek to attempt to negotiate earlier date. Aitland's position is to be abolished.

BOCHANTIN, Bernard: VSIP and VERA approved. Bochantin's position is to be abolished.

CAVINESS, Marie: VSIP approved. Caviness's position is to be abolished.

CHIN, Bing: VSIP approved. Effective date not later than 3 January 1998, or earlier on Mr. Beranek's decision. Chin's position is to be abolished.

GILLILAND, Betty: VSIP approved. Mr. Beranek to determine position to be abolished from within GL DETS. Surplus HR employee is not to be placed in GL DETS or elsewhere in GL Regional Office as a result of this VSIP; need to get total numbers down, not moved around internally. See additional guidance below.

HADINYAK, Julie: VSIP approved. Haidinyak's position is to be abolished.

KANDL, Gregory: VSIP and VERA approved. Kandl's position is to be abolished.

KOWALKOWSKI, Lorraine: VSIP approved. Kowalkowski's position is to be abolished.

Subject: Commander's action on VSIP/VERA for CELRD Regional Offices, 1998.

LATORUNEY, Paul: VSIP approved. Latourney's position is to be abolished.

LEINTZ, Barbara: VSIP and VERA approved. Leintz's position is to be abolished.

LEONARD, Donald: VSIP approved. Mr. Beranek to make recommendation to division commander on how to structure Chicago office for future end-state structure. However, the Chief of DETS Engineering Division will be in OR Regional Office, Mr. Beranek will be the division Director of Engineering and Technical Services.

LISUZZO, Gactano: VSIP and VERA approved. Lisuzzo's position is to be abolished.

METZ, Anada: VSIP and VERA approved. Metz's position is to be abolished.

MUELLER, Jewell: VSIP approved. Mueller's position is to be abolished.

OKONSKI, Jerome: VSIP approved. Effective date not later than 3 January 1998. Okonski's position is to be abolished. Director of Program Management to make recommendation of division commander on future end-state structure. Director of Program Management will be in OR Regional Office and will be director for division.

ORDONEZ, Jose: VSIP approved. Ordonez's position is to be abolished.

PRITCHARD, Barry: VSIP approved. Pritchard's position is to be abolished. Mr. Steiner will be the Planning Division Chief for the division.

SMITH, Robert: VSIP approved. Smith's position is to be abolished.

SORENSEN, Rosa: VSIP and VERA approved. Sorenson's position is to be abolished.

WESTALL, William: VSIP approved. Westall's position is to be abolished.

(2) Ohio River Regional Office, Cincinnati.

EBERHARDT, Berry Mae: VSIP approved. Eberhardt's position is to be abolished.

EMMERICH, John: VSIP approved. Emmerich's position is to be abolished.

GOLLADAY, Walter: VSIP and VERA approved. IM staff (between two offices, to be reduced by one.)

GREGORY, Phyllis: Disapproved. Key position as CEFMS coordinator, cannot afford to lose her expertise at this critical time.

HUGENBERG, Thomas: VSIP and VERA approved. Effective date not later than 21 November 1997. Hugenberg's position is to be abolished.

JAMES, Jackie: Disapproved. Chief of Audit position will be in end-state structure in all likelihood. As both Chief Auditors have applied, under DOD policy the one with the senior Service Computation Date must be approved first. Therefore VSIP and VERA were approved for Mr. Batburney and disapproved for Mr. James.

PERRY, Norman: VSIP approved. Mr. Mello's position is to be abolished and be re-assigned to Mr. Perry's position. Effective date to be not later than 3 January 1998.

STRACHN, Donna: VSIP and VERA approved. Effective date to be not later than 3 January 1998. Strachn's position is to be abolished and duties to be combined with Executive Liaison position, to include supervision over Public Affairs Specialists in both regional offices.

SUPPLE, Mary: VSIP approved. Ms. Rosario's position in Resource Management is to be abolished. Messrs. Basham, Gibson, and White to decide how duties being performed by Ms. McAlister, Rosario and Supple to be combined into remaining positions in the trade directorates.

TOWNSEND, John: VSIP and VERA approved. Townsend's position is to be abolished.

3. Other commander's decisions guidance:
a. As the above actions are effected, the remaining staff principles will be designated as

the division staff officer for both regions and all seven districts. This includes the following directors/office chiefs: (RM action to officially designate)

Programs Management—Mr. Michael White (pending assignment/selection of an SES to the position).

Engineering and Technical Services—Mr. Dwight Beranek; Planning Division—Mr. Daniel Steiner, Engineering Division—To be recruited with duty location in Ohio River Regional Office, Cincinnati, Real Estate Division—Mr. Dominick Lijoi.

Audit—Mr. Jackie James.

Contracting—Mr. Michael Lee (Chicago).

Division Counsel (approved by the Chief of Engineers)—Mr. Terry Kelley.

Equal Employment Opportunity Officer—Ms. Juleana Frierson.

Human Resources—Mr. William St. John.

Information Management—Mr. Walter Golladay.

Logistics Management—Mr. Gary Thomson.

Provost Marshal/Inspector General—MAJ Joanne Dewberry.

Public Affairs—Ms. Donna Strachn (until retirement, then combined as indicated above).

Resource Management (as approved by the Chief of Engineers)—Mr. Paul Gibson.

c. I previously made the decision to abolish all Human Resources (HR) positions in the former NCD operating HR office and conduct a Reduction in Force (RIF); HR employees in

that office will be afforded bump and retreat rights under RIF to occupied positions only. All positions in the Great Lakes Regional Office which are not presently permanently encumbered by an employee will be officially abolished along with those indicated above.

d. Mr. Michael Loesch from GL Regional Office is to be offered the position in OR DETS, Construction-Operations Division vice Sherm Gee.

e. Mr. Timothy Monteen is to be offered a management directed reassignment to the OR DETS, Construction-Operations position vice Dave Patuson.

ALEXANDER R. JANSEN,

Colonel, Corps of Engineers,
Commanding.

—

GENERAL BALLARD: I am writing regarding a problem that has developed during the writing of the Corps' division restructuring plans. The problem is the perception that Regional Offices in Chicago and Omaha are subservient to their co-regional office.

The perception is caused by a general lack of information or communication to the divisions, and HQUSACE staff. The staff in Cincinnati has not had a Town Hall meeting to explain the dual regional office concept or the transition plan. One staff member was reported as saying something to the effect of "We have 90 new employees and don't know what to do with them". The transition teams have worked together to prepare a plan that should be acceptable to all.

However our sense of well being falters when we hear statements that are opposite of what we heard from you. What is even worse, is receiving correspondence from HQUSACE that does not exhibit the intent of the restructuring plan. One such example was the 31 Mar 1997 memo on Restructuring Implementation Instructions which identified Office Symbols, EROC's and UIC's for Corps offices. There was no organizational element identified as the Ohio River Regional Office. We understand that those concerns were heard, understood and being acted upon.

The worst example of HQUSACE insensitivity to this issue is the Corps' Home Page on the Internet. Again, there is a Great Lakes Regional Office in Chicago. But, no mention of a Regional Office in Cincinnati, only the Great Lakes Ohio River Division Office.

We have taken you at your word and hope that these are only errors of ignorance, and that the Home Page has not been corrected due to other IM efforts required to implement your restructuring plan. Perhaps a few words to the HQUSACE Chief of Information Management would clarify the perception the Home Page gives to all that see it, and identify it as a high priority item.

Thank you for your assistance.

DUANE A. KOWALSKI,

President,
Local 777, IFPTE.